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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

LAUNCH COMPLEXES A AND E TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR CHANGES SINCE

DECLASS REVIEW by NIMA/DOD

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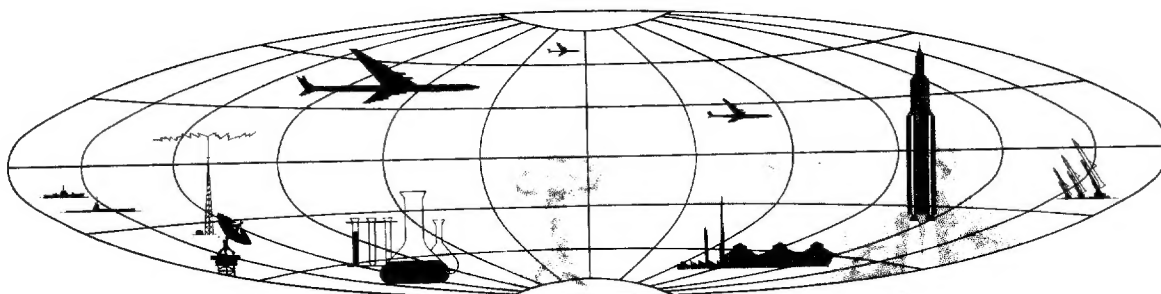


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LAUNCH COMPLEXES A AND E
TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR

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INTRODUCTION
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KEYHOLE photography of [redacted] provided the largest scale photography of Launch Complexes A (45-54N 63-20E) and E (45-57N 63-12E) at the Tyuratam Missile

Test Center (Figure 1) since [redacted] photography of [redacted] This report discusses changes and newly identified facilities observed at the two complexes since [redacted]

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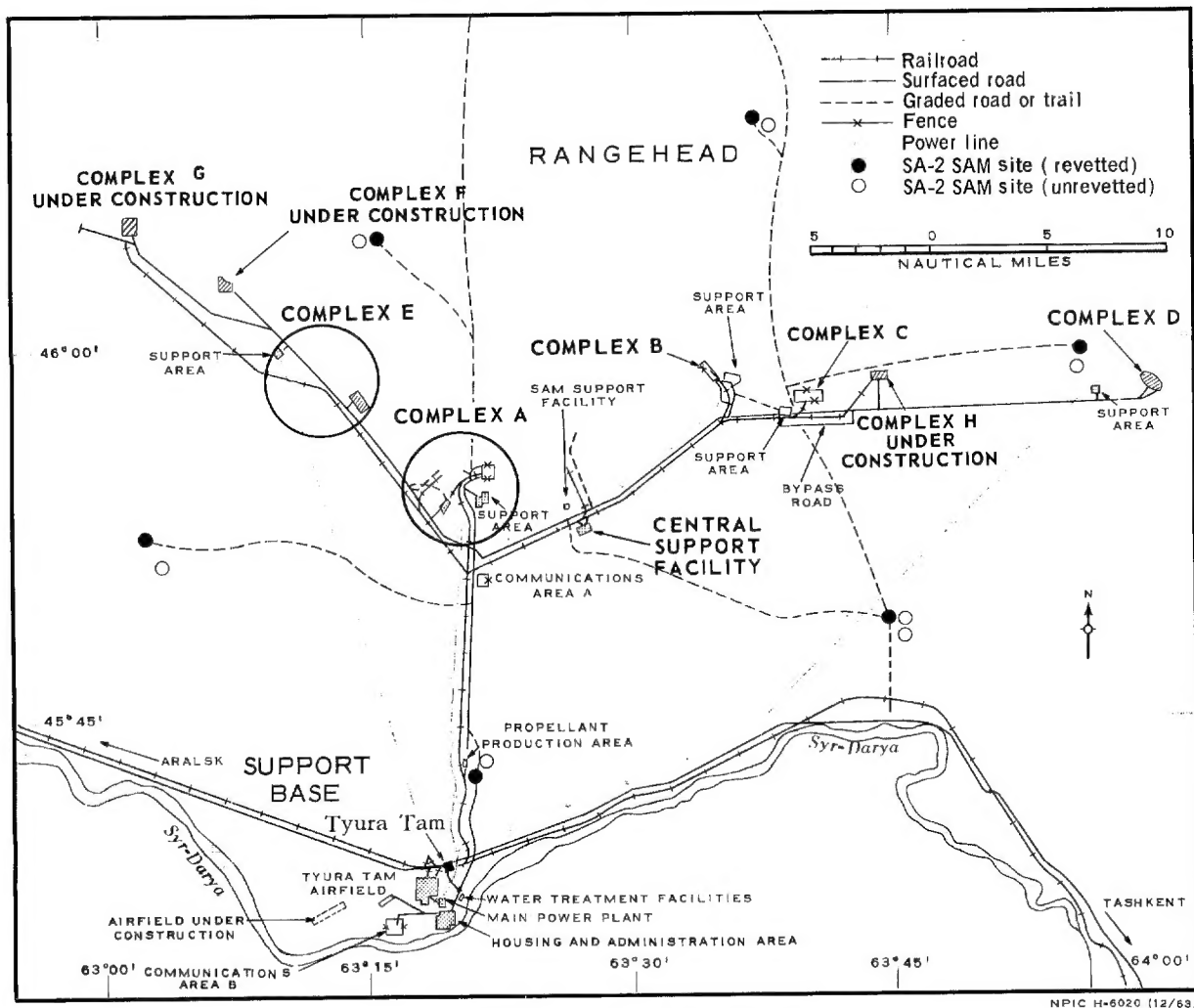


FIGURE 1. TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER.

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photography of [] in some instances, with regard to Launch Complex A,

comparisons with the [] photography were necessary.

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LAUNCH COMPLEX A

Launch pad A1 (Figure 2) appears to have undergone very little change, but activity is apparent in the vicinity of the pad. Approximately 10 vehicles, one of which is probably a crane, and 3 rail cars are located in the pad area or on the rail spurs adjacent to the launch pad. The probable cascade building identified on [] photography has been removed and a newly identified bunkered building is located just southwest of its former position. []

[] Additional details of the launch tower at pad A1 cannot be determined because of shadow. The double fence between launch pads A1 and A2 has been removed.

Launch pad A2 (Figure 2), measuring 80 by 70 feet, is flat, probably hard surfaced, and appears to be fenced. There are probably three or four pieces of movable equipment on the pad. Three towers have been newly identified: two are on diagonally opposite corners of the pad and appear to be similar in construction to those at Launch Complex E; the third is possibly a light tower. On the northernmost of the 4 rail spurs west of pad A2 are 6 rail cars, 2 of which may be tank cars; equipment or material is stored between the other spurs. A possible missile component, also observed in the same position on [] photography of []

[] is situated on the southernmost spur approximately 600 feet west of the launch pad. 1/

About 2,500 feet southeast of the electronics facility west-northwest of launch pads A1 and A2 is a newly identified electronics facility, one leg

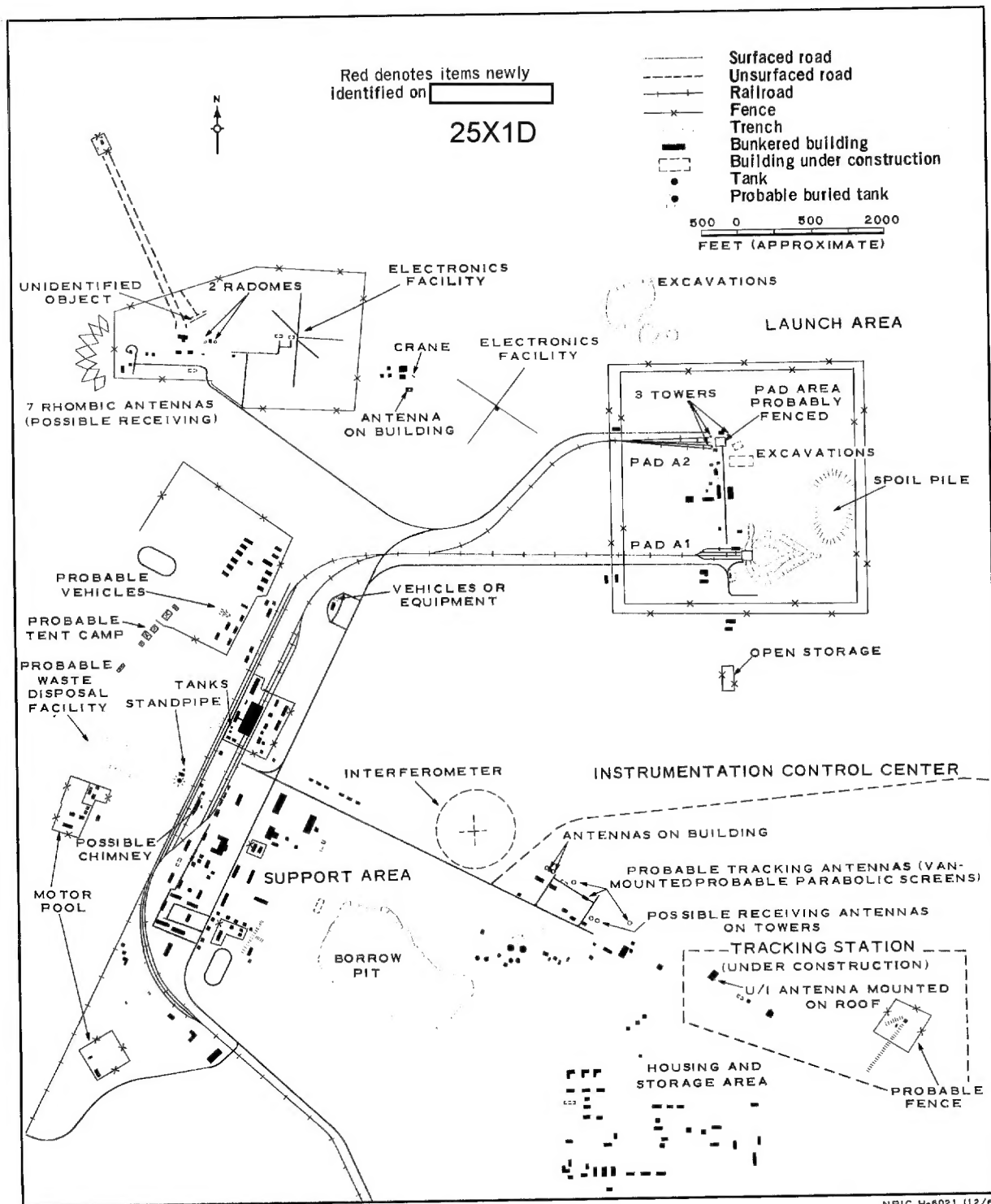
of which is oriented [] (Figure 2). The newly identified facility was probably under construction in []

A newly identified security fence encloses the older electronics facility and the support buildings west of it. The 3 structures within the fenced area previously identified as probable domes can now be confirmed as 2 radomes flanking a central structure. 2/ Outside the security fence, and along its western perimeter, are seven newly identified rhombic antennas oriented on azimuths of approximately 220 to 325 degrees. Because of the small scale of other available photography, the rhombic antennas can be negated only on the [] photography of []

Newly identified facilities in the support area for Launch Complex A (Figure 2) include 25 buildings (4 under construction), one standpipe, and one probable buried tank. Approximately 45 rail cars can be identified within the support area. The interferometer, which was identified approximately 5,200 feet southwest of pad A1 on the [] photography, appears to be inactive. Two newly identified van-mounted probable tracking antennas, with probable parabolic screens, are located in the instrumentation control center. Included in the same general area are 2 antennas mounted on the roof of a building, and 2 possible receiving antennas mounted on towers. East-southeast of the instrumentation control center is a newly identified tracking station under construction. Fifteen new buildings have been constructed in the housing and storage area southeast of the inactive interferometer. Negation dates for previously identified facilities in these areas cannot be determined.

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FIGURE 2. LAUNCH COMPLEX A.

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LAUNCH COMPLEX E

The only discernible evidence of activity in the vicinity of launch pad E1 (Figure 3) is the presence of five small vehicles near the missile-ready building. Two rail tracks leading from the missile-ready building join about mid-way to the launch pad. The dark circular area seen on the pad in [] is no longer apparent. A newly identified very small

structure is located in the same relative position near the base of each of the two pyramidal lattice towers adjacent to launch pads E1 and E2. Each of these structures has a definite slope, with the lower end inclined toward the pad. Located south of each of the largest buildings at pads E1 and E2, and at the same relative distances from them, are two other very small buildings and a very

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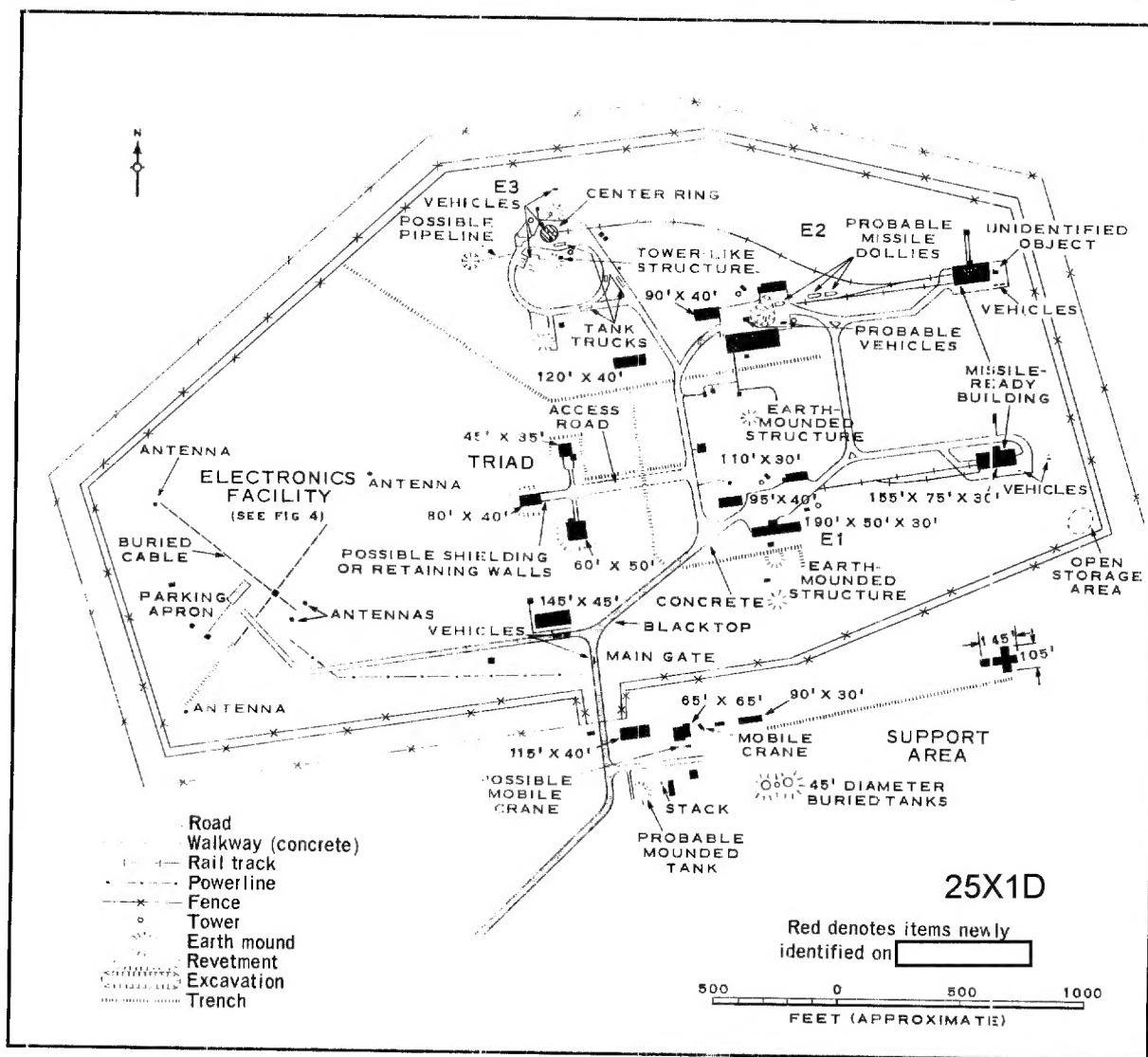


FIGURE 3. LAUNCH COMPLEX E.

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small earth-mounded structure. A shallow trench extending westward from a point south of pad E1 turns north and connects with a deeper trench which extends west and northwest to the complex fenceline from a point south of pad E2. A small open storage area is located in the fence corner southeast of the missile-ready building for launch pad E1.

There are two vehicles, and a possible third, parked adjacent to the missile-ready building for launch pad E2; an unidentified object appears against the east side of the building (Figure 3). Two rail tracks leading from the missile-ready building join about midway to the launch pad, and a third track branches to pad E3. Two probable missile dollies can be distinguished alongside the track near pad E2, and a third is standing on the concrete apron. The center of pad E2 now contains a shallow excavation with five small objects, presumably equipment or machinery; two probable vehicles are also parked on the pad apron. The protrusion evident on the north side of the largest building at pad E1 is not present on its counterpart at pad E2. The smaller buildings on the northeast sides of pads E1 and E2 have identical notches at their northwest extremities. The concrete walkways south of the largest building at pad E2 have no apparent counterpart at pad E1.

Considerable activity is discernible in the vicinity of launch pad E3 (Figure 3). There are 3 tank trucks and 10 other vehicles (2 on the pad) in the pad area. The pad is a well-defined dark circular area 60 feet in diameter, with a slightly elevated center ring 15 feet in diameter. A relatively high towerlike structure, probably of concrete construction, is located about 75 feet south of the center of the launch pad. The base of this structure is bunkered on three sides, and there is an underground entrance on the west side. The pyramidal lattice towers adjacent to pad E3 are 75 feet closer together than those

adjacent to pads E1 and E2. Neither the very small sloping structures associated with the towers adjacent to pads E1 and E2 nor the very small buildings and earth-mounded structures are present in the pad E3 area. A shallow excavation, with a possible pipeline leading to it, is located about 150 feet west of the pad E3 area.

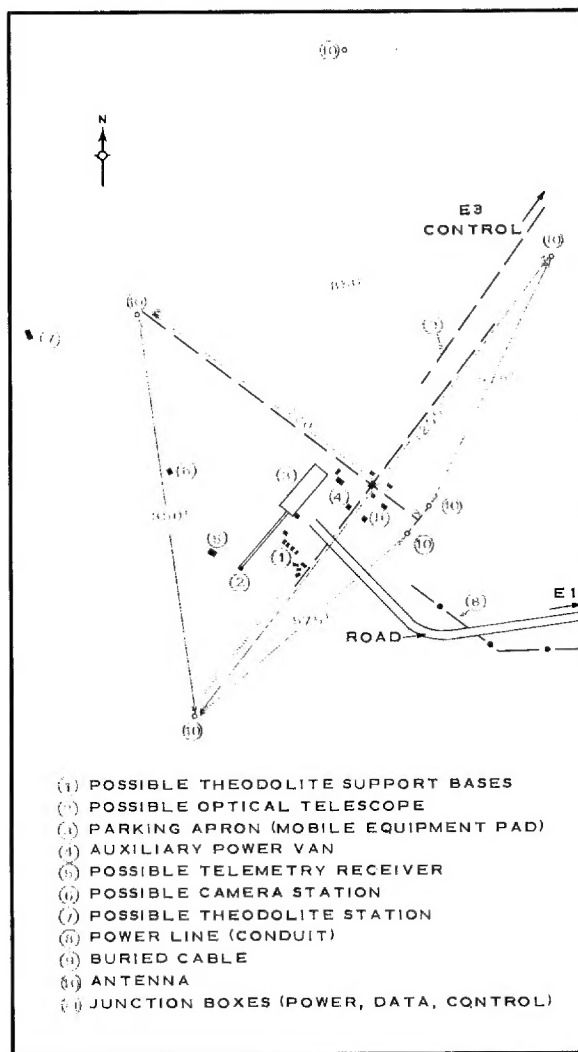


FIGURE 4. ELECTRONICS FACILITY, LAUNCH COMPLEX E.

The exact dimensions of the three buildings which form the triad in the central part of the launch complex (Figure 3) can be determined

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from the [] photography of []
[] Possible shielding or retaining walls are apparent on two of the buildings, and may be under construction at the third. Bunkering of the northernmost building is complete on only one side; the other buildings are bunkered on three sides. A deep trench parallels the northern side of the triad access road and extends northward and west around two sides of the northernmost building. Earth spoil appears to have been spilled onto the access road, which does not appear to have been paved as yet.

A road-served electronics facility is situated in the southwest part of Launch Complex E (Figure 4). The facility does not have the characteristics of known interferometers at Soviet missile test ranges.

Launch Complex E is now triple fenced, except for the southeast quadrant. Two mobile cranes (one possible) can be distinguished in the support area outside the main gate, and there are three vehicles near the gate. A new deep trench extends westward from the south side of the cruciform building to the main cluster of buildings.

REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY



MAPS OR CHARTS

DESPA. Series 1, Sheet NL 41-5 and Sheet NL 41-8, 1st ed, Nov 62, scale 1:250,000 (TOP SECRET [])

DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC. R-234/63, Probable Missile Component, Launch Complex A, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, USSR, Sep 63 (TOP SECRET [])
2. NPIC. R-227/63, Launch Complexes A and B and Central Support Facility, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, USSR, Sep 63 (TOP SECRET [])

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- NPIC. R-59/62, Missile Test Center, Tyura Tam, USSR, Changes and Additions [] Apr 62 (TOP SECRET [])
- CIA. PIC/JR-2/61, Launch Area "A," A Reanalysis of the Launching Structure, Missile Launching Complex, Tyura Tam, USSR, Mar 61 (TOP SECRET [])
- CIA. PIC/JR-2/60, Missile Launching Complex, Tyura Tam, USSR, Comparative Analysis of [] Photography, Feb 60 (TOP SECRET [])
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REQUIREMENT

PC 753/63

NPIC PROJECT

J-336/63

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